

Survey # WA-1-248

Approximate date 1870-1945

Maugansville

private x public x

The Village of Maugansville is located in northern Washington County, Maryland, just northwest of the county seat, Hagerstown. The village developed as a linear settlement and grew from a small cluster of buildings in the 1850s to have a second parallel street by the early 20th century. The district includes the concentrated historic area of the village along Maugansville Road and Village Mill Drive from Horst Lane north to Alpine Drive. Predominantly residential in character, dwellings in the village represent three distinct periods in its development: mid-19th century buildings conveying the original appearance of Maugansville as a crossroads village, traditionally influenced vernacular buildings from the 1890-1920 period, and the predominantly foursquare style houses from the 1910-1930 period. Remaining commercial buildings/structures representing Maugansville's agricultural heritage include a grain elevator and a hatchery.

Settled, according to tradition, in the 1820s by the Maugans family of German and Scottish descent, Maugansville developed in response to a variety of factors including Washington County's strong agricultural economy, the railroad, the village's location near the county seat, and most uniquely its association with the Mennonites who had settled on the surrounding farm land in the mid-19th century. Starting as a small rural community, the village expanded with the arrival of the railroad and grew as the major village serving area farmers by providing agricultural equipment, repair services, and processing and storage facilities. During the industrial boom period of the later 19th to early 20th centuries, Maugansville transitioned into a "bedroom community" as a result of a Hagerstown becoming a major manufacturing center in the State of Maryland and the availability of the railroad to transport workers from Maugansville to employment opportunities in Hagerstown. Also, during this time many Mennonites retired to Maugansville after a life of farming. Today Maugansville is significant as the visual portrayal of a late 19th century rural village community formed based on Washington County's agricultural prosperity and its early- to mid- 20th century aspects as a quiet residential community that developed as a result of Washington County's agricultural/industrial transition period.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WA-I-248

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Maugansville

and/or common Maugansville

## 2. Location

street & number Maugansville Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Hagerstown ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Washington

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district)	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Multiple Owners

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc Washington County Courthouse Liber

street & number West Washington Street Folio

city, town Hagerstown state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Washington County Historic Sites Survey

date 1973-1978 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

## 7. Description

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### Condition

☒ excellent    ☐ deteriorated  
☐ good        ☐ ruins  
☐ fair         ☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved        date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count 135

The village of Maugansville is located approximately three miles northwest of Hagerstown in Washington County. It consists of houses aligned along Maugansville Road, the main thorofare, running north-south through the village, and Village Mill Drive, a parallel street to the west, cross streets and alleyways. There is extensive post World War II development surrounding on all sides. Intersecting the two parallel streets are Maugans Avenue, extending in an easterly direction from the village to U.S. Route 11, north of Hagerstown. About one half mile to the north of Maugans Avenue is Showalter Road which also extends in an easterly direction to U.S. Route 11 and I-81. Extending west from Maugansville Road across rolling farmland is Garden View Road at the south end of the village and Reiff Church Road at the north end of the village. The Norfolk and Western Railroad passes across the south edge of the village. The Mason-Dixon Line is located approximately one and one half miles to the north and the Washington County Regional Airport is located immediately northeast of the village. The village is situated in the heart of the agriculturally rich Cumberland Valley in a level fertile plain amid farmland which is rapidly undergoing development. The survey area includes Maugansville Road and Village Mill Drive from Horst Lane on the south to Alpine Drive at the north.

Aside from the modern subdivisions surrounding Maugansville, the overall appearance of the historic portion of the village was formed in the early 20th century. A significant portion of the buildings are three or four bay-wide vernacular frame houses, conservative in appearance; brick or frame foursquares and a few bungalows. The character of the town is residential. There are few commercial buildings. There are no historic churches due to the Mennonite influence. Mennonites preferred to build their churches in the countryside among the farms of their members rather than in towns and villages. The principal industry was the feed and grain elevator at the southwestern edge of the village. It is the largest architectural element in Maugansville with its concrete and metal silos and metal chutes and conduits. The elevator was established in 1893. Another industrial building is the former Cumberland Valley Hatchery, located just south of the railroad on Maugansville Road. By far, the greatest number of buildings are houses.

The oldest part of the village is along Maugansville Road north of the intersection with Maugans Avenue. Specifically there are two houses apparently of log construction at 13816 and 13818 Maugansville Road. The more southerly, 13816, is cased with brick while 13818 is wood sided. Both are three bays wide with extensions to the rear. Both would appear to date from the mid 19th century and represent the original appearance of Maugansville as a crossroads village. Also in the same vicinity are four other houses which appear to date from before approximately 1880. One is frame (13825), one is apparently log and frame (13829), one is log with asbestos shingle siding (13827) and the other is brick (13908). These are all located along Maugansville Road, from just south of Eby Lane to just south of Alpine Drive and coincide with a cluster of buildings shown on the 1877 Atlas map.

Today the village imparts the characteristics that it acquired in the early 20th century, that of a quiet residential village serving the surrounding agricultural population, most of which is made up of Mennonites or other German sectarians. Maugansville remains largely cohesive, although it does become fragmented north of Alpine Drive with the introduction of ranch-style houses from the 1960s and more recently. The boundaries of the village survey district, therefore, end at Alpine Drive. Although there are scattered individual properties that are historic north of Alpine Drive they are interspersed among non-contributing newer houses.

The surveyed area includes 102 historic properties, most of them houses.

Most houses are of brick or light frame construction. Aside from the early buildings from the mid-19th century, there are two main phases or types of buildings. The first is vernacular, tradition influenced buildings

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from the 1890-1920 period and the second is predominantly foursquare style houses from the 1910-1930 period.

The earlier of these two periods is typified by three or four bay wide side gabled houses often with an L or shed extension at the rear. Brick examples which are probably close to half, have all stretcher or common bond facades, segmental arches above windows and doors and two over two light sash windows. Those with L extensions to the rear often have two story porches, usually south-facing. Most of these houses have or had full across-the-front porches, often with gingerbread post brackets. Frame houses are light framed. Most have had modern surface treatments from 1940s asbestos shingles to more recent aluminum and vinyl sidings. A few have retained decorative window and door architraves, pointed or angled ones from the 1890s and flat topped with molding from the 1900-1910 period. The surveyed area contains approximately 60 houses of this type and period, over half of the total of 102. Therefore they dominate the village. Their greatest concentration, however, is on Village Mill Drive between Eby Lane and Alpine Drive, and at the south end of the village between Horst Lane and the Railroad.

From the 1910-1930 period are foursquare houses which are plentiful in the village. Most of these are brick, with all stretcher bond. Most are two bays wide with double or triple windows. Often they have cast stone foundations, lintels and sills. Across-the-front or wraparound porches are typical. Twenty-three foursquare houses are included in the survey area. While they are scattered throughout the village, there is a concentration of foursquares along Village Mill Drive, between the Railroad and Eby Lane, where 11 of the 23 are located.

Also contributing to the character of the village are yards and lawns, retaining walls and walkways, and fences and outbuildings. Consistent with the early 20th century construction which dominates the village, are walkways, steps and parapets of poured concrete. Front yards are often defined by concrete, stone, or cast stone retaining walls. Most properties have, in addition to a house, one or more support structures. Most of these are of frame construction and are stables, small barns and garages. Most of the houses along Maugansville Road are set back from the road's edge, while those along Village Mill Drive for the most part are placed close to the sidewalk. The Maugansville Ruritan Club maintains a park with picnic grounds, a ball field and a playground along the east side of Maugansville Road between Maugans Avenue and the railroad.

The overall character of Maugansville is conservative and traditional in keeping with the philosophies and world views of its founding population most of whom were Mennonites or other German-derived sectarians.

Maugansville is not identified as such on the Taggart 1858 Map of Washington County. Five buildings are depicted on the map, all on the east side of Maugansville Road. One is on the farm of J. Maugans, one belonging to J. Bear and the others unidentified. Surrounding property owners shown on the 1858 map were M. Horst, John Horst, David Horst, J. Sheally, and J. Maugans. The 1877 Atlas Map identifies Maugansville by name. Maugans Avenue is not present and the community consists of a cluster of buildings north of the railroad, and a distinctly separate cluster farther to the north between Showalter Road and Reiff's Church Road. The remaining buildings from the southern cluster are included within the survey area. The 1877 Atlas identifies ten residences, a railroad station (located on the east side of Maugansville Road) and a wagon and blacksmith's shop. Several of the properties, including the wagon and blacksmith's shop are identified as belonging to J.T. Maugans. Listed among the business references for the Conococheague District is J. T. Maugans with a general repair shop, "Reapers, theashers, cutting boxes, plows and all. Cutting tire on light neat buggies a specialty." In 1909 Maugans addition to Maugansville was platted, consisting of seventeen lots west of the public road (Maugansville Road). This plat apparently established Maugans Avenue leading west from Maugansville Road and North Street (now Village Mill Drive) paralleling Maugansville Road to its west, and two alleys.

In general Maugansville's buildings are well maintained. There are still few commercial establishments.

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Among them is a car dealership (Saab) in a concrete block building that once served as a grocery store on the east side of Maugansville Road. On the west side, opposite, is the site of J. T. Maugans wagon shop, now occupied by the Saab dealership's service department. The building appears to date approximately to the 1920s. It is a gable fronted concrete block garage, two bays wide with an overhanging shed across the front. The concrete blocks are old, suggesting early 20th century construction. This site, however was that which was occupied by J.T. Maugans' Wagon and Blacksmith Shop as identified in the 1877 Washington County Atlas.

Maugansville exhibits the character of a conservative agricultural village which because of its proximity to Hagerstown also became a "bedroom" community as Hagerstown blossomed as a regional industrial center in the early 20th century.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exceptions: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

### SUMMARY

The village of Maugansville is located in northern Washington County, Maryland, just northwest of the county seat, Hagerstown. Settled, according to tradition, in the 1820s, the community developed in response to a variety of factors including Washington County's strong agricultural economy, the railroad, the village's location near the county seat, and most uniquely its association with the Mennonites. The village developed as a linear settlement and grew from a small cluster of buildings in the 1850s to include a second parallel street by the early 20th century, in response to cultural and historical trends which are reflected in the buildings with conservative interpretations of vernacular styles between the mid-19th century and the 1940s.

### HISTORY STATEMENT

#### Historical Context

Washington County, established in 1776, experienced initial settlement from the 1730s. Although the first white settlers were hunters and fur traders, by the 1760s, the broad limestone valley which spans much of Washington County came to be highly regarded for its fertile, productive soil. The majority of the first land grants were awarded to English absentee owners from eastern Maryland, and they parceled their land into smaller farms of 100-300 acres and sold it, mostly to German Anabaptist Sectarians moving from southeastern Pennsylvania (principally Lancaster County). The lower Cumberland Valley became renowned as a grain growing region with emphasis on small grains: wheat, oats, rye and barley. The area's fast moving streams provided the power source for grist and flour mills which processed the grain into meal and flour which was easier to ship than bulk loads. The grain industry also resulted in distilleries, although there were fewer distilleries than mills, in part because of the religious beliefs of the many Mennonite and Brethren farmers.

Grain products from Washington County were carried by wagon to Baltimore and Philadelphia, or floated down the Potomac River to Georgetown. The rich grain resources of the Valley were, in part, the impetus for construction of two of the nation's earliest railroads, the B&O extending west from Baltimore and the Franklin (later the Cumberland Valley, then Pennsylvania Railroad) extending south from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The Cumberland Valley served as a bread basket until after the Civil War when grain production shifted to the mid west. Grain production in the Cumberland Valley gradually gave way to dairy farming and orcharding. Today the rich farmland is disappearing beneath housing and industrial developments as a highly developed interstate highway system, the legacy of the 18th and 19th century transportation routes puts the

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Cumberland Valley within commuting distance of the metropolitan areas.

### Resource History

#### Settlement and gradual growth, 1820-1870

Maugansville is part of the Conococheague Election District, bordering the Pennsylvania line and bounded on the east and south by the Hagerstown District, and on the west by Clear Spring District. It is said to have been first settled by Abraham Maugans of German and Scottish descent who came here in 1827 with his wife and eleven children. Maugans reportedly bought 880 acres, divided the land into plots, built a log cabin on each, and gave each of his children a farm for a home.<sup>1</sup> However, no evidence of this activity could be found among Washington County's land records. The 1858 Taggart Map of Washington County shows only one farm in the Maugans name, on the east side of Maugansville Road.

In the mid-19th century, a group of Mennonites from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, settled on nearby farms. In the 1700s and early 1800s, Mennonites emigrated to America with hopes of religious freedom and economic improvement because they suffered persecution for advocating separation of church and state in their homeland. Mennonites were attracted to Washington County because the farm land was lower priced than that in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania where many of them had originally settled. Washington County's rich land also had plenty of timber and stone for building material. Mennonites avoided political activities and instead concentrated in agriculture, further enhancing the county's strength as an agricultural region within the State of Maryland. Maugansville and the surrounding farmland was a point of concentration for Mennonites. Among prominent Mennonite families in and around Maugansville were the Horsts, Ebys, and Reiffs.

The Franklin Railroad, built in the 1830s, was one of the country's first railroads. It eventually merged in 1865 with the Cumberland Valley Railroad which upgraded and improved the line and built stations. A station was built in Maugansville and is shown on the 1877 Atlas map at the location of the present Ruritan Park. The station is not shown on the 1858 map and may have been constructed about 1871 when the CVRR built its station in Hagerstown. A second track was later added as at least three passenger trains passed through the village daily traveling north to Harrisburg and south to Hagerstown and beyond. The railroad would continue to influence Maugansville's development until after World War II, by providing a means to ship locally produced agricultural products and materials to and from the Maugansville Elevator and Lumber mill.

#### Commercial and agricultural growth, urban ties 1870-1900

The Cumberland Valley Railroad was the first of four railroads which converged in Hagerstown. As a result, the city emerged as the manufacturing center of the county as well as a major manufacturing center in the state. Thus, from the 1870s, the city's population and the population of the immediately surrounding area began to grow. In 1882 the Conococheague District's population was 1,630 and contained the villages of Fairview, Cearfoss, Maugansville, and Pikesville which all developed in a linear fashion along major roads. The district at this time is described as an established agricultural area:

"Well-cared for public roads extend in all directions through the district, and numerous saw and grist mills run by water power are distributed along the water courses which abound in the

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<sup>1</sup>Barb McKee and Teresa Swain, "Maugansville: Jonathan Maugans Leads Settlers to 880 Acres in Northern part of County in 1827," *The Cracker Barrel*, June, July, 1996, p. 18

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eastern section. Surface of the county in Conococheague is generally rolling and the land is good. The average production per acre is about twenty-five bushels of wheat, forty-five bushels of corn, and three tons of hay to the acre, and the average price of land per acre is seventy-five dollars"<sup>2</sup>

Maugansville developed along Main Street, (Maugansville Road) with some development on Showalter Road. Maugansville was the most populated village in the district and the only village with a railroad station, adding to its significance as a trade center for the surrounding farmers. The railroad also played an additional role to the residents in Maugansville by providing transportation for commuters to work in Hagerstown industries such as Brandt Furniture, Moller Organ, Pangborn Corp., Jamison Door Co. and the garment industry that eventually employed 4,000-5,000 women.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, the growth of the village at this time was due not only to agricultural prosperity of the surrounding area but also job opportunities in nearby Hagerstown.

The late 19th century saw Maugansville as a thriving self-sufficient community. The 1877 Atlas map shows Maugansville with its Railroad Station at the intersection with Main Street (Maugansville Road) and development north along Main Street including ten residences, and a wagon and blacksmith shop operated by J. T. Maugans. A cluster of residences are in the northeast corner of the intersection of Main and Showalter Road, along with School No. 4, the Evangelical Parsonage and a store. The Post Office was reportedly established in about 1880 on the south side of the railroad. During the time period the village also contained other establishments including a blacksmith shop, the Maugansville Plow Works, and a shirt factory employing about fifteen women. The Hagerstown Trust Company opened a branch office in two rooms of a private home, eventually closing in 1933 due to the depression and never reopened. A carriage factory opened in 1888 and closed in 1923 due to the popularity of the automobile.<sup>4</sup>

A new employment opportunity for residents of the village occurred sometime between 1893 and 1896 when a store and grain elevator was built the site of the present elevator to store grain to be exported out by rail. The facility later expanded and sold coal, lumber and feed. The facility was referred to as the elevator because the grain carried into the top of the silo and then released into the railroad cars at the bottom.<sup>5</sup> Later a new set of buildings on the site where the modern elevator stands today, was constructed. That elevator burned in the 1940s and was rebuilt with the addition of three modern bins.

Much of the development of Maugansville is attributed to Joseph Horst, son of John Horst who operated a farm adjacent to Maugansville. Mr. Horst laid out and developed thirty (30) lots in Maugansville in the 1890s, established a creamery in 1892, and the Maugansville Elevator in 1893. Earlier in 1882, he built a store and railroad station in partnership with Issac Eby.<sup>6</sup> This was a different facility from the existing CVRR station.

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<sup>2</sup>Thomas J. Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, Vol. II Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882, p. 1288

<sup>3</sup>Harold Boyer, Personal Interview, Smithsburg, MD. May 1, 1997.

<sup>4</sup>Maugansville Junior High School, *Maugansville Past and Present*, Vol II, Maugansville vertical File, Western Maryland Room, Washington County Library. Also in McKee and Swain, op cit, p. 4-5.

<sup>5</sup>Boyer, op cit.

<sup>6</sup>Thomas J.C. Williams, *A History of Washington County, Maryland*, John M. Runk and L.R. Titsworth, (1906) p. 665.



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### Continued Expansion, 1900-1930

The local economy continued to thrive in the industrial era brought on by the railroad. Through the late 19th to the early 20th century Maugansville experienced a moderate amount of development. The 1912 USGS quad shows the linear street development was forming into two streets with the addition of the current day Village Mill Road running west of and parallel to Main Street and connecting streets between forming a "ladder." The town now extended south of the railroad tracks along both these roads, approximately doubling the size of the town (USGS 1912). Up until World War II, the village was made up of Maugansville Road which was the main street and locally called "Front Street" and Village Mill known locally as "Back Street".<sup>7</sup> After World War II, the village began to experience the effects of increasing suburban development extending from Hagerstown.

In the early-to-mid-twentieth century Maugansville contained at least four poultry hatcheries over time with the last, the Cumberland Valley Hatchery, established in 1945. A creamery in town operated along the Pennsylvania Railroad and went out of business in 1918. A cider press moved into the same building and apple juice was processed into sweet and hard cider using apples from area growers. A foundry employed seven or eight men to make plows and other agricultural equipment. The foundry was later used as a blacksmith shop. It was located on the property occupied by 13836 Maugansville Road. A shirt factory and a carriage shop were located along Eby Lane at 17930 and 17923 respectively. A number of dairies were located in the surrounding area. With pasteurization required by law in the 1950s, many dairies went out of business. No taverns ever developed in the community due to the Mennonite influence.<sup>8</sup> Maugansville's Mennonites opened a home for their elderly in 1923.<sup>9</sup> The home is located outside the village.

The Washington County Regional Airport first opened in 1928 on 60 acres of Showalter farm land, taking the first big parcel of farmland in the area.<sup>10</sup> Despite all of this economic activity, by 1930 the road patterns remained the same as in 1912 (Washington Map Co. 1930, Maryland State Roads Commission, 1937).

### Village Period - Conversion to modern 20th century status (1930-present)

This period brought the final changes to Maugansville as it moved from its self-sufficient status and loss of local commercial and agricultural enterprises to what has been termed as a "bedroom community". Businesses expanded on nearby Route 11, providing competition to the businesses in Maugansville. World War II brought the third boom to Maugansville. Fairchild Industries, makers of aircraft, supplied many jobs to the area. Workers commuted to the Fairchild plant from as far away as Martinsburg, West Virginia. The railroad and Potomac Edison buses carried workers from the village to their manufacturing jobs. Traffic jams began occurring at shift change.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>Boyer, op cit.

<sup>8</sup>ibid.

<sup>9</sup>Maugansville Junior High School, op cit, p. 12.

<sup>10</sup>McKee and Swain, op cit, p. 18.

<sup>11</sup>Boyer, op cit.

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A lumber yard and a planing mill opened and expanded the commercial complex at the Elevator and operated from the 1940s to the 1980s. Plywood was delivered by railroad and custom cabinets made. Reportedly in the 1940s, ten to twenty railroad cars would come in at a time to the Elevator during the summer.<sup>12</sup> By 1953, the number of buildings in town appears to have doubled with the addition of more buildings along Village Mill Avenue, and the new Weaver Avenue running parallel to and east of Main Street (Maryland State Roads Commission, 1953). The old dry goods and grocery store was converted to Brewer's Saab dealership.<sup>13</sup>

In the 1990s Citicorp located its credit card processing plant near Maugansville, making the village a prime area for development. McDonalds restaurant located just outside of town and the Fairchild plants was renovated and renamed the Gateway Industrial Park. Maugansville, formerly a quiet rural community surrounded by wide expanses of farm land is now surrounded by modern 20th century residential and commercial development.

### Historic Themes:

**Transportation:** Maugansville owes its initial development to its location on a road which led from Hagerstown to Mason-Dixon where it led on to Greencastle. This was known as the "Old Hagerstown and Greencastle, PA Road." It became supplemented by the more direct Williamsport-Greencastle Turnpike and U.S. Route 11, which lie on either side of Maugansville Road. At the site of Maugansville several local roads serving the surrounding farms converged. When the Cumberland Valley Railroad was constructed, Maugansville's growth was concentrated close to its path. The grain elevator is clearly oriented to the railroad, and it is the railroad which allowed Maugansville to grow during the early 20th century, in part as a commuter village. The railroad station, shown on the 1877 Atlas is no longer present and no other rail related buildings are known to exist. The railroad was important to Maugansville for transporting grain, lumber, coal and passengers to and from the village.

**Architecture:** Maugansville's architecture portrays the development of the village. In general the architecture is conservative and traditional, reflecting the religious tenets and world view of the local inhabitants. Significant is the residential character of the village. There are few commercial buildings, no historic churches and few manufacturing facilities. The absence of church buildings is characteristic of Mennonites who in the 18th and early 19th centuries, and to an extent today, worshipped in private houses and barns. Church buildings were uncommon until the mid-19th century and then were located among farms rather than in towns and villages.

The particular growth of the village during the early 20th century is marked by the many houses of that era, particularly early 20th century vernacular representations (three, four or five bay frame and brick side gabled houses) and foursquares. These coincide with the sale of additional lots by Joseph Horst and the Maugans family in the 1890s and early 1900s. This architectural period also reflects Hagerstown's concurrent industrial boom and the ability of Maugansville's residents to commute by rail into Hagerstown. The village also served as a retirement place for local farmers.

**Economic:** Maugansville's economic development prior to the 1890s was dependent on the surrounding farms. The early industry was a wagon and agricultural equipment repair shop. There was a railroad station but no

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<sup>12</sup>Ibid

<sup>13</sup>McKee and Swain, op cit. p. 18.

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attendant rail-dependent industry until the Maugansville Feed and Elevator complex was developed in 1893. This expanded to deal in coal and lumber as well as feed and grains. The railroad also provided a link to Hagerstown and enabled Maugansville residents to commute to industrial jobs there. The several hatcheries further support the village's relationship to surrounding farms. The shirt factory continued to employ local women in the early 20th century.

**Social/Educational/Cultural:** Much of Maugansville's character is defined by the conservative and subdued expression shared by Mennonites and other Anabaptist sects who settled in and around the village. No examples of high style architecture are to be found in the village and ornamentation is restricted to decorative porch brackets and window trim. Equally restrained is the incidence of social and cultural facilities. Churches were not located in the village, but rather out among the farms. There is currently an Assembly of God Church but it was built within the last thirty to forty years. Religious conservatism dictated that there would be no taverns, movie houses, dance halls or lodges for fraternal organizations. Thus, Maugansville remains as a residential village with a conservative appearance which reflects the social and cultural traditions of its residents. The strong ties to the Mennonite community make Maugansville unique among Washington County's villages. Other villages had a more mixed cultural make-up which is reflected in a more diversified collection of buildings.

The Mennonites who lived in and around Maugansville, were for the most part members of Reiffs Mennonite Church, located approximately two miles northwest of the village on Reiffs Church Road. It was one of the more conservative Mennonite Churches in Washington County. The congregation was organized about 1833, and became one of the largest in the county. Prominent families in the church were Horsts, Reiffs, Rissers and Martins. Christian R. Strite, minister, wrote a brief summary of Mennonite beliefs in 1912:

"We believe that practical piety is the essence of religion. The surest and most infallible proof of the true church is the sanctity of its members, who believe salvation is obtained only by repentance and confession of faith, baptism of believers (adults) by pouring, communion of saints by bread and wine, feet washing, kiss of charity, prayer head covering, non-swearing of oaths, abolition of war, non-resistance, non-conformity; and excommunication of the disobedient."

"We believe the gospel teaches plain dress, simple and industrious life, free ministry, and separation from the world."

"The world will be saved by our practical effort or lost by our impractical life."<sup>14</sup>

In 1892, the Mennonites and Brethren in cooperation built a union church in Maugansville, on land donated by Joseph Horst. The Mennonites used the building for a singing school and held services there, but not on a regular schedule. Other groups such as the Lutherans and Methodists also used the church. This church may have been on the site now occupied by the Church of God.

Most of the Mennonites were farmers. There were also millers, blacksmiths and tradesmen. The church tolerated only limited participation in politics. Some Mennonites including several in the Maugansville area held positions as bank director for banks in Hagerstown. The character of Maugansville is in a large

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<sup>14</sup>Daniel R. Lehman, *Mennonites of the Washington County Maryland and Franklin County, Pennsylvania Conference*. The Publication Board of the Eastern Pennsylvania Mennonite Church and Related Areas. (1990) p.274.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WA-I-248

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

Section Number 8 Page 7

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measure defined by social and cultural tenets of the Mennonites.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WA-I-248

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

Section Number 8 Page 8

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## HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870  
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930  
Modern Period, 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning.  
Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: District

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):


Dwellings  
Commercial  
Industrial

Known Design Source: Unknown

Survey No. WA-I-248

## 10. Geographical Data

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

H 

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
People's Resource Center  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7000

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WA-I-248

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

Section Number 9 Page 1

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**ABSTRACT**

**WA-I-248**

**Late 19th Century**

**Maugansville, Maryland**

**Hagerstown Vicinity**

**public-private**

**Maugansville is a late 19th and early 20th century rural village whose economy until recent years was centered around the surrounding agricultural area.**



## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON  
**VILLAGE OF**  
**Maugansville, Maryland****2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**Northwest of Hagerstown, east of the Pennsylvania Railroad.**

CITY, TOWN

**Maugansville**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

☒ VICINITY OF **Hagerstown**

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**Washington****3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☒ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☒ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☒ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

**Multiple Owners**

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**Washington County Court House**

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**West Washington Street**

CITY, TOWN

**Hagerstown**

STATE

**Maryland 21740****6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The village of Maugansville is located in the Conococheague Election District, about two miles northwest of Hagerstown in Washington County, Maryland. Passing through the southern end of the town and to its west is the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Maugansville has several principal streets. To the north and west of the village are newer sections consisting of modern subdivisions. Most of the older houses in Maugansville are of brick or frame construction and date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Nearly all of the houses are set back several feet from the street and have one story porches across all or most of their front elevations.

Prominent features of Maugansville are its two large grain elevators, one, the Maugansville Elevator, is located at the south end of the village where the railroad crosses North Street. The other, Martin's Elevator, is located about one mile south of the town.

According to recent data the population of Maugansville is approximately 1100.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Maugansville is a late 19th and early 20th century rural village whose economy until recent years was centered around the surrounding agricultural area.

Thomas Scharf's History of Western Maryland, published in 1882, relates the following information about the town: "Mangansville (Sic) takes its name from Jonathan and Abraham Mangan (Sic) who settled on the spot early in the present century. In 1820 they owned 200 acres of land in the neighborhood. Abraham Mangan (Sic) died in 1830, and was buried in a private graveyard. When the Mangans (Sic) arrived the land was all a dense forest of timber. The first buildings of importance were erected in 1835 by Jonathan Mangan (Sic)." <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Thomas J. Scharf, History of Western Maryland, Volume 2. Philadelphia, Pa: J. B. Lippincott & Co., (1882) 1239.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Scharf, Thomas J., History of Western Maryland, Volume 2. Philadelphia, Pa:  
J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1882.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION

**Washington County Historical Sites Survey**

DATE

**January 1977**

STREET & NUMBER

**County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street**

TELEPHONE

**791-3065**

CITY OR TOWN

**Hagerstown**

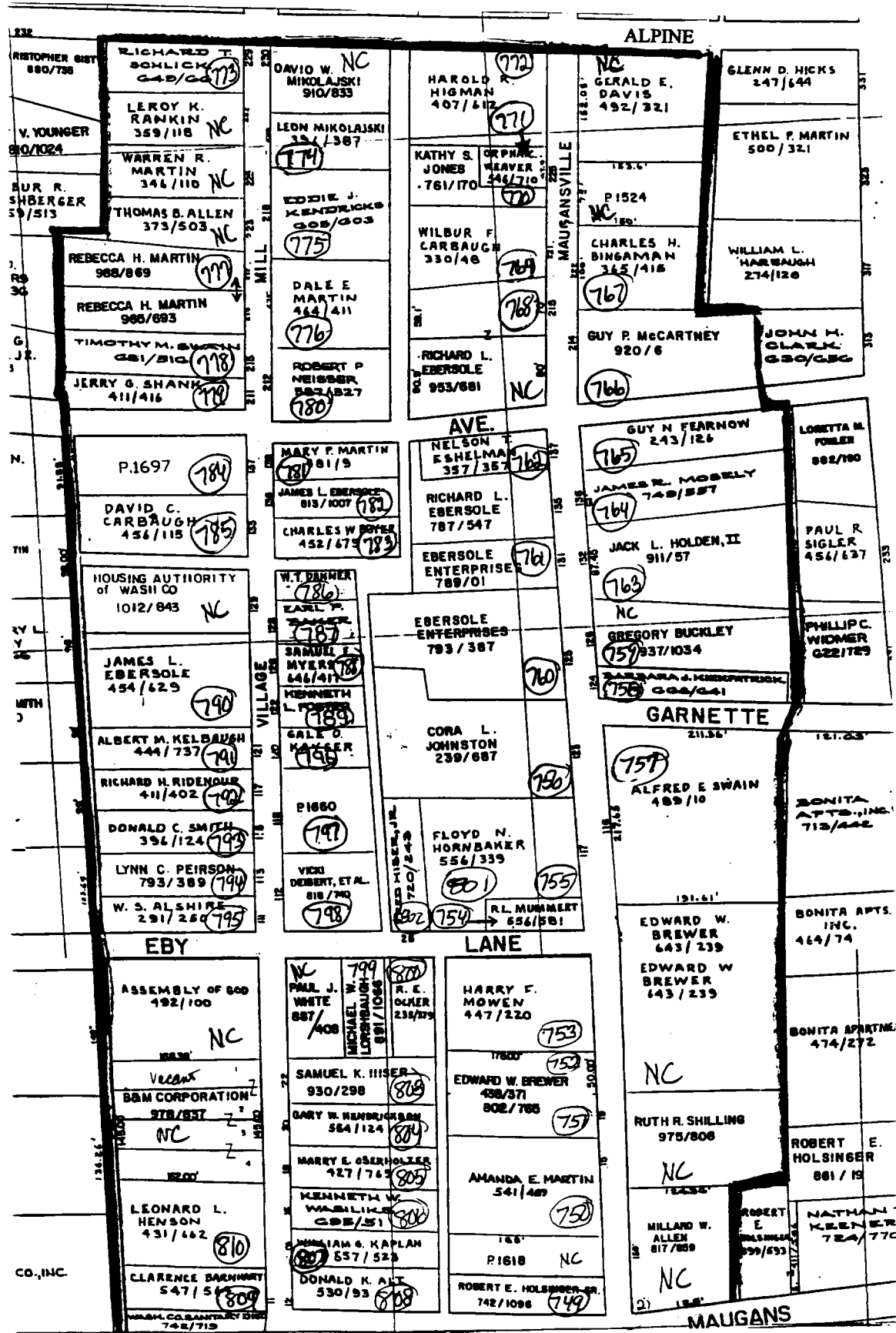
STATE

**Maryland 21740**

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

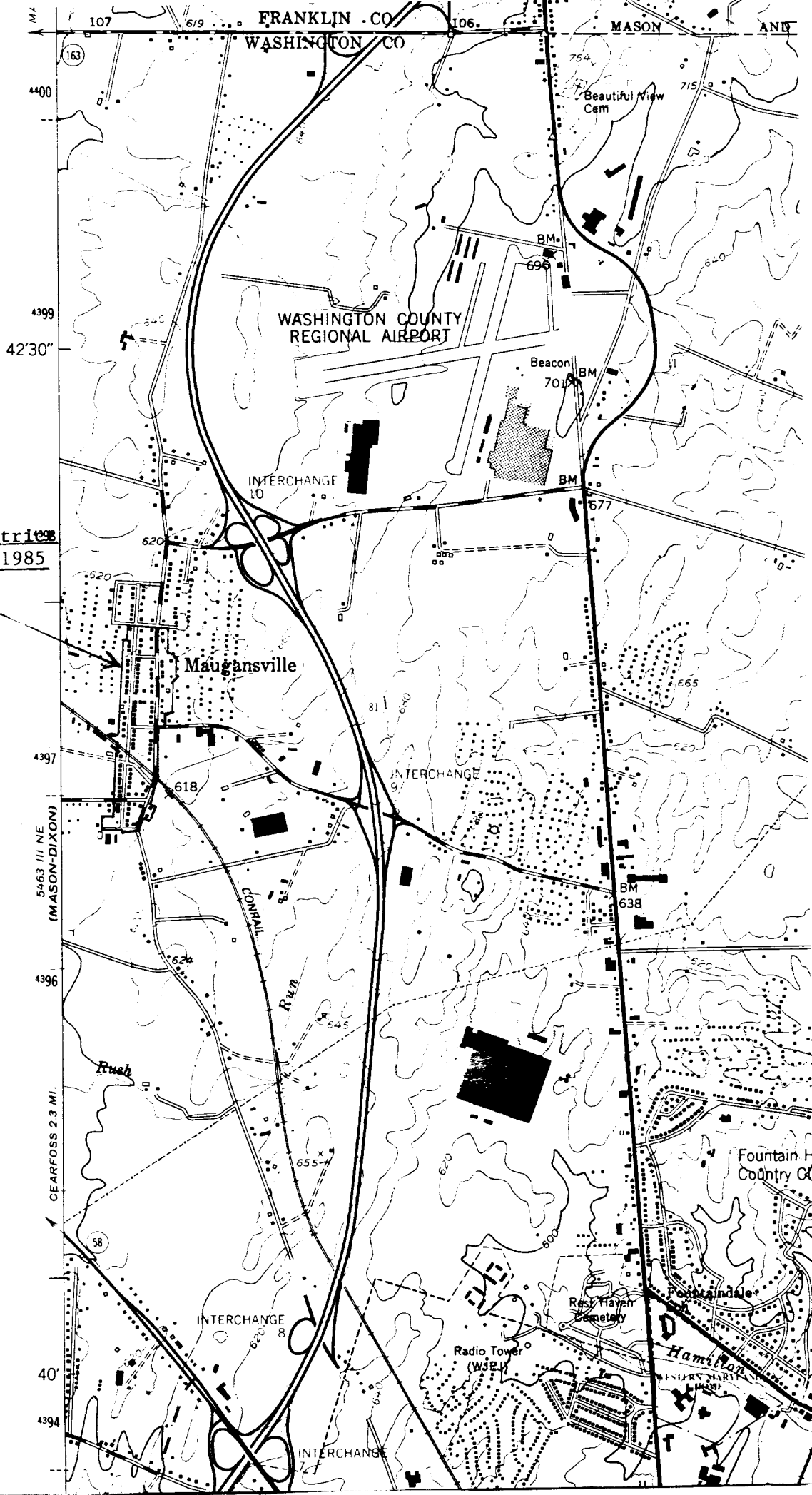


(connects with top of Map #2)

Survey No. WA-I-248  
Maugansville Historic District  
Maugansville, Washington County  
Map #1 of 2



WA-I-248  
Maugansville Historic District  
Hagerstown quad, 1953, PR 1985



This is a detailed topographic map of the Hagerstown, Maryland area. The map shows the Hagerstown Airport, which is a large rectangular area with several runways and taxiways. To the north of the airport is the town of Hagerstown, and to the south is the town of Maugansville. The map includes contour lines indicating elevation, with labels such as 600, 620, 640, 660, 680, 700, 720, 740, 760, 780, 800, 820, 840, 860, 880, 900, 920, 940, 960, 980, 1000, 1020, 1040, 1060, 1080, 1100, 1120, 1140, 1160, 1180, 1200, 1220, 1240, 1260, 1280, 1300, 1320, 1340, 1360, 1380, 1400, 1420, 1440, 1460, 1480, 1500, 1520, 1540, 1560, 1580, 1600, 1620, 1640, 1660, 1680, 1700, 1720, 1740, 1760, 1780, 1800, 1820, 1840, 1860, 1880, 1900, 1920, 1940, 1960, 1980, 2000, 2020, 2040, 2060, 2080, 2100, 2120, 2140, 2160, 2180, 2200, 2220, 2240, 2260, 2280, 2300, 2320, 2340, 2360, 2380, 2400, 2420, 2440, 2460, 2480, 2500, 2520, 2540, 2560, 2580, 2600, 2620, 2640, 2660, 2680, 2700, 2720, 2740, 2760, 2780, 2800, 2820, 2840, 2860, 2880, 2900, 2920, 2940, 2960, 2980, 3000, 3020, 3040, 3060, 3080, 3100, 3120, 3140, 3160, 3180, 3200, 3220, 3240, 3260, 3280, 3300, 3320, 3340, 3360, 3380, 3400, 3420, 3440, 3460, 3480, 3500, 3520, 3540, 3560, 3580, 3600, 3620, 3640, 3660, 3680, 3700, 3720, 3740, 3760, 3780, 3800, 3820, 3840, 3860, 3880, 3900, 3920, 3940, 3960, 3980, 4000, 4020, 4040, 4060, 4080, 4100, 4120, 4140, 4160, 4180, 4200, 4220, 4240, 4260, 4280, 4300, 4320, 4340, 4360, 4380, 4400, 4420, 4440, 4460, 4480, 4500, 4520, 4540, 4560, 4580, 4600, 4620, 4640, 4660, 4680, 4700, 4720, 4740, 4760, 4780, 4800, 4820, 4840, 4860, 4880, 4900, 4920, 4940, 4960, 4980, 5000, 5020, 5040, 5060, 5080, 5100, 5120, 5140, 5160, 5180, 5200, 5220, 5240, 5260, 5280, 5300, 5320, 5340, 5360, 5380, 5400, 5420, 5440, 5460, 5480, 5500, 5520, 5540, 5560, 5580, 5600, 5620, 5640, 5660, 5680, 5700, 5720, 5740, 5760, 5780, 5800, 5820, 5840, 5860, 5880, 5900, 5920, 5940, 5960, 5980, 6000, 6020, 6040, 6060, 6080, 6100, 6120, 6140, 6160, 6180, 6200, 6220, 6240, 6260, 6280, 6300, 6320, 6340, 6360, 6380, 6400, 6420, 6440, 6460, 6480, 6500, 6520, 6540, 6560, 6580, 6600, 6620, 6640, 6660, 6680, 6700, 6720, 6740, 6760, 6780, 6800, 6820, 6840, 6860, 6880, 6900, 6920, 6940, 6960, 6980, 7000, 7020, 7040, 7060, 7080, 7100, 7120, 7140, 7160, 7180, 7200, 7220, 7240, 7260, 7280, 7300, 7320, 7340, 7360, 7380, 7400, 7420, 7440, 7460, 7480, 7500, 7520, 7540, 7560, 7580, 7600, 7620, 7640, 7660, 7680, 7700, 7720, 7740, 7760, 7780, 7800, 7820, 7840, 7860, 7880, 7900, 7920, 7940, 7960, 7980, 8000, 8020, 8040, 8060, 8080, 8100, 8120, 8140, 8160, 8180, 8200, 8220, 8240, 8260, 8280, 8300, 8320, 8340, 8360, 8380, 8400, 8420, 8440, 8460, 8480, 8500, 8520, 8540, 8560, 8580, 8600, 8620, 8640, 8660, 8680, 8700, 8720, 8740, 8760, 8780, 8800, 8820, 8840, 8860, 8880, 8900, 8920, 8940, 8960, 8980, 9000, 9020, 9040, 9060, 9080, 9100, 9120, 9140, 9160, 9180, 9200, 9220, 9240, 9260, 9280, 9300, 9320, 9340, 9360, 9380, 9400, 9420, 9440, 9460, 9480, 9500, 9520, 9540, 9560, 9580, 9600, 9620, 9640, 9660, 9680, 9700, 9720, 9740, 9760, 9780, 9800, 9820, 9840, 9860, 9880, 9900, 9920, 9940, 9960, 9980, 10000. The map also shows various roads, including the main highway running north-south through the center, and several smaller roads branching off. There are also labels for various landmarks, such as the Hagerstown Airport, the Maugansville area, and the State Line. The map is oriented with North at the top.





WA-I-248

MAUGASVILLE

WASHINGTON CO, MD

SC SIGNAGE

6/97

WAS MASSAHO

VIEW NE on MAUGASVILLE from Horse Camp

# 1 of 13



WA-I-248

MAUGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON COUNTY MD

SC SALVATORE

6/87

NEE MD SATO

VIEW S on MAUGANSVILLE RD FROM MAUGANS AVE

#2 of 13



WA-I-246

MAUGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON CO. MD

1 SC. Salvator

6/97

Neg- MD 3-10

View from Maugansville Rd from E. side

# 3-613



WA-F-248

MAUGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON COUNTY MD

S. SPURVING

6/97

Neg. no sun

View Sen Maugansville Road from Alpine

#4 of 13





13900 MAUGANSVILLE RD

STOP

WA-E-248

MARGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON CO, MD

SCSALVADORE

6/87

105-MD STARS

View Wontipine from Margansville Rd

#5 of 13



WA-I-248

INDIAN - C

WASHINGTON CO. WY

SC SALVATURE

6/87

Neg - MD S&PO

View S on Village Mill Cr. from Alpine

#6 of 13



WR - I - 2118

MAUGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON CO MD

SC Salvage

6/97

Ng - ME SHED

View Non Village Mill from Leona

#17 of 13



WA-I-248

MAUGANS, WE

WASHINGTON CO, MD

SC Solitaire

6/97

Reg MD SHPO

View 3 on Village Hill from Eby Lane

#8 of 13





WA-I-248

MAUGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON CO. MD

SC SALVATORE

6/97

11-2-103440

VIEW E OF Ely Lane from Village Mall

# 963



WA-I-248

MAUGAHL VILLAGE

WASHINGTON CO, MD

SC SPURITAGE

6197

Xlog- MD SHPD

View Sen Village Hall from Railroad St

#10 of 13



WA-I-240

Maryland

Washington Co MD

SL Solutions

6/97

NK- MD SHRS

1 mi E on View Rd from Village Mall

# 11 of 13



WA-I-248

Marysville

Washington Co. W. Va.

NE 1/4 Sec 12

T. 42 N.

R. 10 W.

View NE on Village Hall from Horst Lane.

# 12 of 13





WP I-246

Marysville

Washington Co MD

S. Schmitt

6/21

Neg - MD State

View E. Marys Ave across Village Mill

#13 of 13



VILLAGE OF MAUGANSVILLE

UP 15315

N 100

15 10 15

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



VILLAGE OF MAUGANSVILLE  
WA-215  
NEB 1714

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



VILLAGE OF MAUGANSVILLE

1891-1892

1893-1894

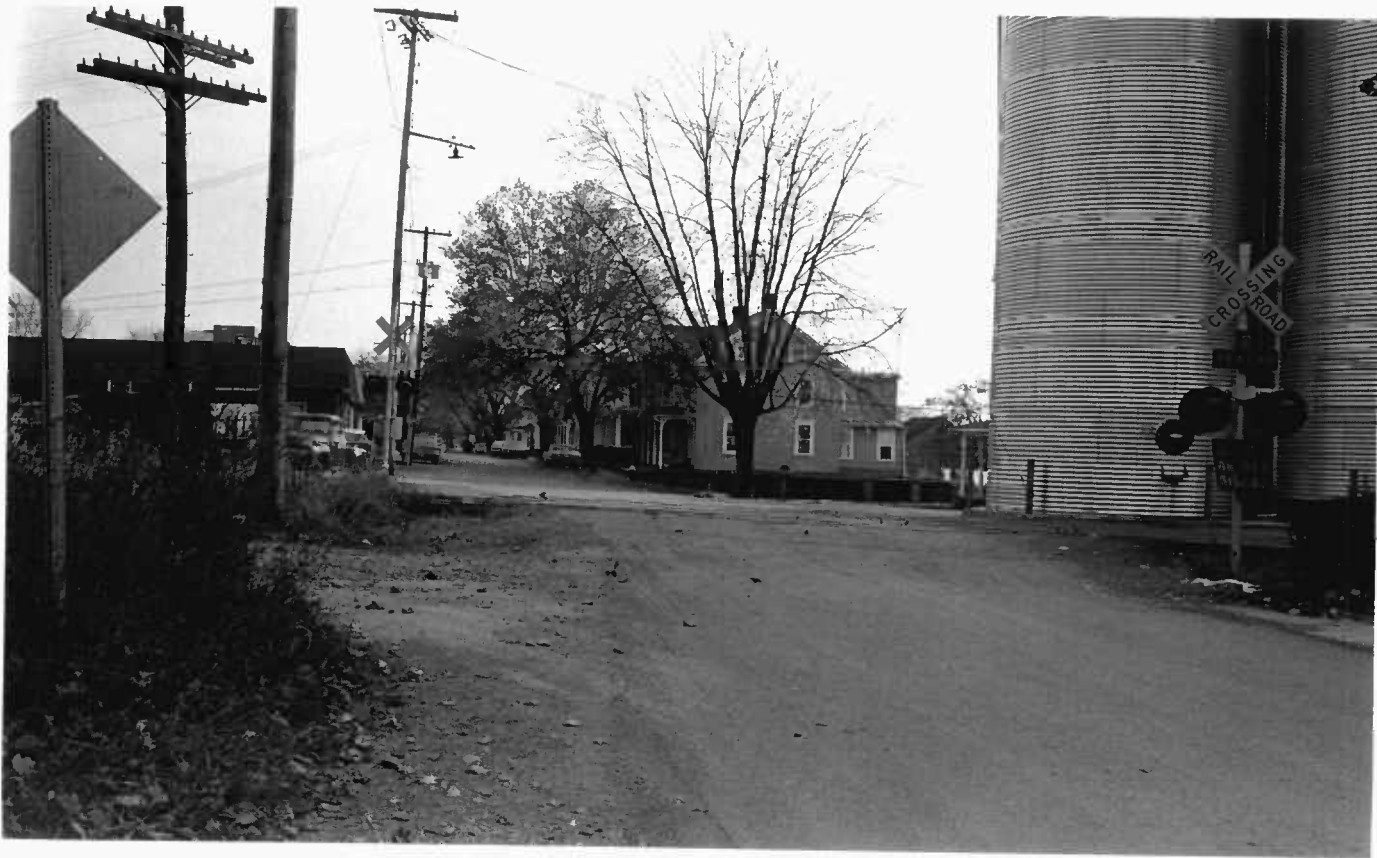
1895-1896

MAUGANSVILLE

WASHINGTON CO.

1891-1892 SURVEY





VILLAGE OF MADGANSVILLE

LAKEVIEW

S. VIEW

Nov 1912

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
LAKEVIEW, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY